

Message Text

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15

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-14 L-03 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11 INR-10

LAB-06 NSAE-00 RSC-01 SIL-01 TRSE-00 PA-04 USIA-15

PRS-01 SP-03 INT-08 DRC-01 /097 W

----- 032228

R 241424Z MAY 74

FM AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3285

INFO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMCONSUL DURBAN

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY MASERU

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

UNCLAS JOHANNESBURG 0515

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB, SF

SUBJECT: WAGE INCREASES FOR WHITE MINE WORKERS

REF: A-69 OF JULY 17, 1973

1. ON MAY 22 CHAMBER OF MINES, FEDERATION OF MINING UNIONS (SIX UNIONS) AND FEDERATION OF MINE PRODUCTION WORKERS (TWO UNIONS) JOINTLY ANNOUNCED NEW AGREEMENT (EFFECTIVE JUNE 1) UNDER WHICH ALL 16,000 WHITE TRADE UNION MEMBERS EMPLOYED IN SOUTH AFRICA'S GOLD MINES WILL RECEIVE R 48 PER MONTH INCREASE IN BASIC PAY. AGREEMENT ALSO CALLS FOR R 50 INCREASE IN LEAVE ALLOWANCE (TO R 250) PLUS IMPROVED MEDICAL BENEFITS AND STANDBY ARRANGEMENTS FOR ARTISANS.

2. TWELVE PER CENT INCREASE WHICH BRINGS NEW BASIC WAGE FOR WHITE MINE WORKERS TO R 378 IS SMALLER THAN 1973 INCREASE BUT, UNLIKE LATTER, APPEARS TO BE UNACCOMPANIED BY UNION CONCESSIONS ON WORK RULES (A-69).

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3. UNION DEMAND FOR FIVE-DAY WEEK STILL UNDER CONSIDERATION
WITH EMPLOYERS SAID TO BE AMENDABLE IF ARRANGEMENTS CAN BE WORKED
OUT WHICH WILL NOT INVOLVE CUTS IN PRODUCTION.

4. CHAMBER EXPECTED TO REVIEW WAGE SCALES FOR BLACK MINE
WORKERS LATER THIS YEAR.
DEGRACE

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Disposition Authority: n/a
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Disposition Comment:
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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